AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as indicated below. The language being added is underlined ("___") and the language being deleted contains strikethrough ("   "):

1. (previously amended)   A system for managing the distribution of licensed media assets, the system comprising:

a portal comprising at least one server computer executing a media library database server application that manages access to a master library of licensed media assets by establishing a virtual private library for each of a plurality of users, each of said virtual private libraries comprising licensed media assets of said master library that are licensed by one of said plurality of users and that can be accessed by a plurality of media player devices via one or more communication networks;

a first media player device being operated by a first user and being operable to:

communicate with said portal to access licensed media assets in a virtual private library for said first user;

receive a new licensed media asset independent from the portal and that is not currently included in the master library or the virtual private library for said first user; and

transfer the reference of the new licensed media asset to the portal for inclusion in the virtual private library for said first user; and

a second media player device being operated by said first user and being operable to:

communicate with said portal to access licensed media assets in said virtual private library for said first user, including said new licensed media asset, of which the license includes multiple device access to the media assets.

-2-

2. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said media library database server application of the portal manages usage rights of users to licensed media assets.

3 - 29. (previously canceled)

-3-

30.   (previously presented)   A system for managing the distribution of licensed media assets, the system comprising:

a portal that includes:

a master library of media assets;

a user account;

a virtual private library that is associated with the user account and includes one or more media assets in the master library that are licensed for use by the user associated with the user account and references to one or more licensed media assets that are stored on a first media player device;

the first media player device including:

one or more media assets that are licensed for use by the user associated with the user account;

the system being operable to:

detect a user logging into the user account of the portal with a second media player device;

grant access to the second media player device to the media assets in the virtual private library, whereby the user can access licensed media assets on the portal and the first media player device.

-4-

31. (currently added)   A media asset management portal for enabling a user to access media assets via a plurality of media player devices, the media asset management portal comprising:

a virtual media asset library associated with at least one user account which contains at least one media asset that a user associated with the user account is licensed to use on at least two media player devices, the virtual media asset library enabling each of the at least two media player devices corresponding to the user account to access the least one media asset; and

a network interface for controlling communication between the at least two media players and the virtual media asset library via a communications network.

32. (currently added)   The media asset management portal of claim 31, wherein the virtual media asset library enables at least one of the media player devices to download the at least one media asset.

33. (currently added)   The media asset management portal of claim 31, wherein the virtual media asset library synchronizes the at least one media asset with the at least two media player devices.

34. (currently added)   The media asset management portal of claim 31, further comprising a master media library database application that synchronizes the at least one media asset contained in the virtual media asset library with at least one of the media player devices.

-5-

35. (currently added) The media asset management portal of claim 34, wherein the master media library database application receives the at least one media asset from one of the at least two media player devices and synchronizes the at least one media asset with the virtual media asset library.

36. (currently added) The media asset management portal of claim 35, wherein the master media library database application synchronizes the at least one media asset received from one of the at least two media player devices with another of the at least two media player devices.

37. (currently added) The media asset management portal of claim 31, further comprising a user interface which enables the user to manage the virtual media asset library.

38. (currently added) The media asset management portal of claim 37, wherein the user interface comprises a web site.

39. (currently added) A portal for enabling a user to manage media assets across a plurality of associated media player devices via a communications network, the portal comprising:

a virtual media asset library for storing a plurality of licensed media assets associated with a user account, the user account specifying a plurality of media player devices associated with the user account; and

an application associated with the virtual media asset library which enables each of the plurality of media player devices associated with the user account to access at least one of the plurality of licensed media assets via a communications network.

-6-

40. (currently added) The portal of claim 39, wherein the application associated with the virtual media asset library synchronizes the plurality of licensed media assets between the virtual media asset library and a local database residing on at least one of the media player devices.

41. (currently added) The portal of claim 40, wherein the application supports an asset deletion feature, an asset addition feature, and an asset change feature.

42. (currently added) The portal of claim 40, wherein the application is configured to receive a new media asset from one of the plurality of media player devices and add the new media asset to the virtual media asset library.

43. (currently added) The portal of claim 40, wherein the application is configured to:

receive a new media asset from one of the plurality of media player devices;

add the new media asset to the virtual media asset library; and

enable another of the plurality of media player devices to access the new media asset.

44. (currently added) The portal of claim 40, further comprising a user interface which enables a user associated with the user account to manage the plurality of licensed media assets in the virtual media asset library.

-7-

45. (currently added)   A media asset management portal comprising:

a media asset library for storing a plurality of licensed media assets associated with a user

account for a user, the user account specifying a plurality of media player devices owned by the

user; and

an application associated with the media asset library which enables the user to seamlessly

manage the plurality of licensed media assets among the plurality of media player devices.

46. (currently added)   A media asset management system comprising:

a portal comprising:

a user account corresponding to at least one user; and

a virtual media asset library for storing a reference to a plurality of media assets

which the user has a license to use; and

a plurality of media player devices associated with the user account, the plurality of media

player devices including a media asset portability application that enables the user to access the

plurality of media assets referenced in the virtual media asset library across the plurality of media

player devices.

47. (currently added)   The media asset management system of claim 46, wherein the

media asset portability application is configured to post a new media asset added to the

corresponding media player device to the virtual media asset library for access by the other of the

plurality of media player devices.

-8-

48.　(currently added)　The media asset management system of claim 46, wherein the media asset portability application is configured to move one of the plurality of media assets from the corresponding media player device to another of the plurality of media player devices.

49.　(currently added)　The media asset management system of claim 46, wherein the media asset portability application is configured to provide at least one of the plurality of media assets from one of the media player devices to another of the plurality of media player devices.

-9-

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